

## **REMARKS**

By the above amendment, in the accompanying RCE for which an information disclosure statement is also submitted, claim 1 has been amended to recite the feature that separated end portions of respective drain signal lines at one display region side and separate end portions of respective drain signal lines at the other display region side are all superimposed on a single gate signal line, while claim 2 has been amended to recite a power supply changeover circuit rather than power supply changeover means, which features are considered to patentably distinguish over the cited art as will become clear from the following discussion.

As to the rejection of claims 1 - 2 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Negishi et al (US Patent No. 5,907,314) in view of Seo (US Patent No. 5,742,365); the rejection of claims 4 and 5 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Negishi et al in view of Seo further in view of Yamazaki (US Patent No. 6,490,562) and the rejection of claims 4 and 5 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Negishi et al in view of Yasuda et al further in view of Yamazaki; such rejections are traversed insofar as they are applicable to the present claims and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

At the outset, applicants note that with regard to the rejection based upon the combination of Negishi, Yasuda and Yamazaki, there is no discussion in the office action concerning Yasuda.

As is apparent, all stated rejections are based upon Negishi et al as a primary reference, and in setting forth the rejection in the first full paragraph at page 4 of the office action, the Examiner notes that the claimed "superposed on the gate lines"

(emphasis added) is broad enough to read on Y1 intersecting with  $X_m$  and Y11 intersecting with  $X_{m+1}$ . As pointed out by the Examiner, the claim does not require superposed on a single gate line. By the present amendment, claim 1 has been amended to require that the separated end portions of respective drain signal lines at one display region side and the other display region side are all superposed on a single gate line. This feature is clearly illustrated in Figure 3 of the drawings of this application, wherein the separated end portion of a respective drain signal line DL of one display region side and the separated end portion of another display region side are a respective drain signal line DL superposed on the single gate signal line GL.

Looking to Figure 11 of Negishi et al, it is readily apparent, as apparently recognized by the Examiner, the end portion of signal line Y1 of one display region side is superposed in one gate line and an end portion of a signal line Y11 of another display region side is superposed on another gate line and are not all superposed on a single gate signal line. As such, applicants submit that claim 1, as amended patentably distinguishes over Negishi et al in the sense of 35 USC 103 since it cannot be considered obvious from the disclosure of Negishi et al to provide such claimed feature. Thus, applicants submit that claim 1 and the dependent claims patentably distinguish over Negishi et al in the sense of 35 USC 103 with regard to this feature alone.

The Examiner recognizes that Negishi et al does not mention an insulation film and a light shielding member, but contends that Seo teaches such features and would be obvious to combine Seo with Negishi to provide such claimed features. Applicants submit that the Examiner has engaged in a hindsight reconstruction attempt with regard to such features, but note that Seo further does not overcome the deficiency of Negishi et al as pointed out with regard to the superposition of the

separated end portions of respective drain signal lines from one display region side and from another display region side on a single gate signal line. Thus, the proposed combination of Negishi et al and Seo fail to provide the claimed features of claim 1 and the dependent claims of this application in the sense of 35 USC 103 and all claims should be considered to patentably distinguish thereover and should be considered allowable at this time.

With regard to the addition of Yamazaki and/or Yasuda, irrespective of the teachings of these references, such references also fail to overcome the deficiency of Negishi et al, as pointed out above, with respect to the superposition of separated end portions of respective drain signal lines of one display region side and of another display region side on a single gate signal line as recited in claim 1 and the dependent claims of this application. As such, applicants submit that all claims patentably distinguish over any proposed combination of references, as set forth by the Examiner, and all claims should be considered allowable at this time.


As noted above, submitted herewith is an information disclosure statement and consideration of the documents submitted is requested.

For the foregoing reasons, applicants submit that all claims present in this application patentably distinguish over the cited art and should now be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, issuance of an action of a favorable nature is courteously solicited.

To the extent necessary, applicant's petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing

of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135  
(501.40910X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melvin Kraus", written over a horizontal line.

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